67-10-Child Care Provider Services

Fund/Agency: 001/67 Department of Family Services					
Personnel Services	\$1,224,106				
Operating Expenses	\$120,132				
Recovered Costs	\$0	CAPS Percentage of Agency Total			
Capital Equipment	\$0				
Total CAPS Cost:	\$1,344,238	0.8%			
Federal Revenue	\$0				
State Revenue	\$0				
User Fee Revenue	\$35,000	'			
Other Revenue	\$6,840				
Total Revenue:	\$41,840	99.2%			
Net CAPS Cost:	\$1,302,398				
		■ Child Care Provider Services ■ All Other Agency CAPS			
Positions/SYE involved in the delivery of this CAPS	24/24				

► CAPS Summary

Child Care Provider Services promotes and protects the health and safety of children who are cared for in family child care homes. Chapter 30 of the <u>Code of Fairfax County</u> requires that persons in Fairfax County obtain a County Home Child Care Permit if they are caring for up to five young children (other than their own) in their homes. OFC staff ensures compliance with the ordinance by assessing, monitoring and providing technical assistance to new applicants and applicants that renew their permit each year.

The Home Child Care Permit ordinance was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1990 and then modified in 1996 to add a \$14 application fee. In 2001, the Board of Supervisors revised the Ordinance to make it consistent with current health and safety information and State child care training requirements for family child care providers.

Family child care providers who receive a County Home Child Care Permit are required to attend twelve hours of training within the first year of child care, and to complete a minimum of six hours training during each subsequent year. To assist providers in meeting these

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requirements, OFC offers a wide variety of training opportunities, including health and safety, child development, programming, and other topics of quality child care. In addition to formal training classes, Provider Services also offers technical assistance to family child care providers through telephone consultation and scheduled or requested home visits. Ninety-eight percent of the individuals who complete the Home Child Care Permit application are satisfied with the process. Over the past year, OFC has mounted a major recruitment effort to increase the number of permitted family child care homes to address the critically short supply of available child care.

Provider Services also administers the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program, which benefits children enrolled in Family Day Care Homes, SACC centers, and Gum Springs Head Start classrooms. CACFP funding provides partial reimbursement for meals and snacks served to children in care, as well as nutrition training, monitoring and technical assistance. The Food Program reimburses the SACC program for snacks served to more than 6,000 children. Gum Springs Head Start program for low-income children is also reimbursed for meals served. In order to receive reimbursement, family child care providers are required to hold a current permit or license, follow a USDA approved meal pattern, allow home visits by County staff, attend training at least once each year, and keep records of menus and meals served.

Future efforts will continue to support Fairfax County citizens who seek to offer quality child care in home-based settings. To best serve the increasingly multicultural families of Fairfax County, future efforts will also be directed toward increased training, workplace ESL training for family day care providers whose first language is not English, and recruitment of family day care providers from diverse backgrounds.

Method of Service Provision

Staff within Provider Services inspect over 1,800 family child care homes for health and safety factors, including required coordination of inspections and criminal background checks with the Department of Fire and Rescue, Virginia State Police, and Child Protective Services. As part of these visits, staff also monitor the early childhood educational curricula and programs in place at family day care homes and homes that serve children enrolled in Early Head Start. Technical assistance is provided to ensure compliance with relevant codes and to encourage safe, healthy, educational, age-appropriate programs for infants and young children. Technical assistance can include basic training in best child care practices, workshops, CPR training, and on-site quidance.

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► Performance/Workload Related Data

Title	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Estimate*	FY 2002 Estimate**
Home visits per year	N/A	N/A	4,140	3,610	4,331
Estimated number of children who receive care in permitted homes	N/A	N/A	10,000	9,025	10,500
Children enrolled in USDA Food Program	N/A	N/A	3,813	5,683	6,047
Number of child care training class participants	N/A	N/A	4,387	6,803	7,303
Permits issued	N/A	N/A	2,000	1,805	2,100

^{*} Data shown is FY 2001 actual.

▶ User Fee Information

Subobject			FY 2002 ABP			
Code	Fee T	Fee Total				
0486	Home Child Care Permits	\$35,000				
	Current Fee Maximum Allowable		Fee Amount			
\$14		\$14				
Purpose of Fee:						
To offset costs of administering the permit process.						
Levy		Year Fee Was				
Authority	Requirements to	Last Adjusted				
Fairfax County	Ordinance change through th	1996				
Code						
Other Remarks:						

^{**} FY 2002 estimates are based on FY 2001 actuals.